tent of the law is that the governor must of what he was doing; the fact was observed give notice that he is going to take the case by everybody. Yet he was convicted and senup for consideration.

the notice that the law requires to be given. pardon.

Now, in regard to what the gentleman from Anne Arundel (Mr. Miller) says about cer- has granted it? tain persons having been sold, and those who have bought them having an interest in their within the purview of this order. I should have been better satisfied with the order if it had been confined to persons in the penitentiary. So far as I have heard, or believe, I. been convicted for these offences who has not been sold out of the State.

Mr. Jones, of Somerset. They are all sold

in the State.

I suppose that within the last Mr. MILLER. year ten or a dozen have been sold in this

county.

Mr. Stirling. The governor has a discretion in regard to them. I do not think any harm can result from the adoption of this order. So far as my experience goes, the amount paid for these persons is not much, and probably full value has been returned long ago.

Mr. MILLER. I know persons who have

paid as high as two hundred dollars.

Mr. Stirling. However, that does not at all touch the question of power. The governor, under the constitution, is not bound to observe any such obligation as that. No the courts had no discretion in the matter.

I know of a case in Allegany county, where a man was accused of running off a call upon the members from Allegany to say whether that is not the fact, or very near the what, but I am satisfied I have stated them very nearly right

at a time when it was supposed the town of lar cases of wrongful imprisonment? This Cumberland was in danger of being taken by order, whether right or wrong, is based upon the rebels, this old negro man gathered up his the ground that there is a certain class of ofchildren, who were slaves, and took them off fences, action upon which is rendered no to Pennslyvania. He made no concealment longer necessary by the action of this body.

tenced. The judge, the jury, and nearly all This order does not conflict with that in the leading citizens of Cumberland, including the least. If the governor acts upon this re- the owner of the slaves that had been run off, commendation, he has the power to give all signed a petition to the governor requesting a

Mr. Jones, of Somerset. And the governor

Mr. GREENE Not yet.

Mr. Stirling There is one man now in the labor-I do not think those cases could come penitentiary under a sentence for forty years, for an offence of this kind; a man against whose private character no one entertains a doubt, but who under mistaken notions undertook to carry out his own convictions in do not think there is a single negro who has regard to the law. It is one of that class of offences which no one regards as malum in se, but an offence against those laws which were necessary to keep up the institution of slavery. He was sent from Prince George's county for forty years. When there is no longer any necessity for such laws, why keep him there? Mr. Belt. What was the case? One of insurrection?

Mr. Stirling. No; being engaged in the underground railroad. He was convicted on five or six indictments, probably more, at the same

term of the court.

The most remarkable feature Mr. Belt. about this discussion, is this extraordinary sympathy for the negro. Not satisfied with devoting nearly the whole of the session of the convention to the consideration of the negro in his various interests and relations, here at the very heel of the session, on the very brink of adjournment, we are called upon matter if the criminal in the penitentiary is to stop our legitimate business, and pass an bound by a contract to work for those who order recommending the governor to open the contract with the penitentiary, he can be par- door of the penitentiary to the negro and the doned, and when he goes out, the contract, so negro stealer; for nine-tenths of the people far as he is concerned, it is at an end. I have which the gentleman speaks. I know there are a great many cases in the penitentiary many cases in the penitentiary many cases in the penitentiary many and leniency and mercy to white man? Many a white man is in the penitentiary in the department of the value of the convention to the penitentiary to the legic and the done of the people of the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks. I know there are a great many cases in the penitentiary to the legic and the done of the people of the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks. I know there is a great many case in the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks. I know there is a great many case in the penitentiary to the people of the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks. I know there is a great many case in the penitentiary to the people of the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks. I know there is a great many case in the penitentiary to the people of the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks. I know there is a great many case in the penitentiary and the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks. I know there is a great many case in the penitentiary and the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks. I know there is a great many case in the penitentiary in the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks and the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks are a great many case in the people of slavery are negroes. Why not extend your which the gentleman speaks are a great many to the people of slavery are negroes. convention, to have some action taken here that would release from the penitentiary men who have been sent there, and who have since number of servants, they being his own become lunatics. You can get nothing done children. It was proved before the court for innocent white people who are confined that he wanted to keep them from being for minor offences upon slender evidence.taken by the rebels. Yet he was sentenced Nothing can be done except for Mr. Negro; to the penitentiary for five or ten years. I he is to be relieved. It is preposterous, ridic-

ulous, disgusting.

The gentleman can enterfacts? I may have misstated them some-tain himself what opinions he pleases about what is preposterous and disgusting. I choose to entertain my own. I would like to know Mr. GREENE. The case arose in this way: what this convention has to do with particu-